

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 2679**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Logue**

February 21, 2014

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An act to add and repeal Section 5847.5 to the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to mental health.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2679, as introduced, Logue. County mental health services: baseline reports.

Existing law governs the operation and financing of community mental health services for the mentally disordered in every county through locally administered and locally controlled community mental health programs. Existing law, the Mental Health Services Act, an initiative measure enacted by the voters as Proposition 63 at the November 2, 2004, statewide general election, establishes the Mental Health Services Fund to fund various county mental health programs. The act requires each county mental health program to prepare and submit a 3-year program and expenditure plan, to be updated at least annually, to the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission within 30 days of adoption.

This bill would, until January 1, 2025, additionally require the State Department of Health Care Services, in cooperation with county mental health directors and appropriate state and county officials, to develop a baseline report on system quality and access to services in each county's mental health plan, as specified. The bill would require the state, on or before July 1, 2015, to issue requirements for each county to establish baseline reports on system quality and access to services provided by county mental health plans. The bill requires the baseline

measures to include, among other things, the number of mental health clients served by category, as specified, and the identification of service priorities that should be developed or expanded to meet community needs.

The bill would require each county, on or before January 1, 2016, to submit a baseline report to the department on the efficacy of the county's mental health plan, as specified, for the 2014–15 fiscal year. The bill would require the report to include expenditures from all revenue streams. The bill would require the department, on or before June 30, 2016, to report to the Legislature on the baseline measure of system quality and access to services provided by the county baseline reports. The bill would require counties to submit a 2nd baseline report to the department by January 1, 2020, for the 2015–16, 2016–17, 2017–18, and 2018–19 fiscal years, and require the department to again report to the Legislature on the baseline measure of system quality and access to services provided by the county baseline reports on or before June 30, 2020. By requiring additional reports from counties, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: yes.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1     SECTION 1. It is the intent of the Legislature to establish a  
2     baseline report that shall inform public officials and stakeholders  
3     of each county's accessible mental illness treatments and supports,  
4     identified unmet needs, and the status of system integration and  
5     collaboration. This baseline report shall inform future investments  
6     in spending and programs of county mental health plans for  
7     cost-efficient and effective integration of all mental health funding  
8     streams.

9     SEC. 2. Section 5847.5 is added to the Welfare and Institutions  
10    Code, to read:

1 5847.5. (a) The State Department of Health Care Services, in  
2 cooperation with county mental health directors and appropriate  
3 state and county officials, shall develop a baseline report of system  
4 quality and access to services in each county's mental health plan.  
5 The baseline report shall include documentation of services funded  
6 by all revenue sources, including county overmatch and any other  
7 sources.

8 (b) On or before July 1, 2015, the state shall issue requirements  
9 for each county to establish a baseline report on system quality  
10 and access to services provided by county mental health plans.  
11 Baseline reports shall include, but not be limited to, all of the  
12 following:

13 (1) The number of mental health clients served by county mental  
14 health plans that serve individuals who meet diagnostic criteria  
15 for access to county mental health systems, based upon system of  
16 care standards and accepted continuum of care models for children,  
17 and adults and older adults. The number of mental health clients  
18 served shall be categorized by children, adults and older adults,  
19 and unmet need.

20 (2) The identification of service priorities that should be  
21 developed or expanded in order to meet community needs.

22 (3) Staff-to-client ratios for the majority of outpatient clients,  
23 the number of days a client waits to see the clinician after seeking  
24 treatment, the average wait between physician visits, access to  
25 individual and group therapies, and access to supportive housing.

26 (4) A description and the impact of established programs to  
27 reduce crisis-driven spending, such as programs to reduce repeated  
28 hospitalizations, incarcerations, injuries, and deaths.

29 (5) For the three most recent years available, the number and  
30 percentage of county jail populations that have a diagnosis of  
31 mental illness, county suicide rates, and increases or reductions in  
32 law enforcement involvement in mental health crisis calls,  
33 including the number of commitments pursuant to Section 5150.

34 (6) The percentage and amount of county revenue devoted to  
35 the cost of treatment for individuals in locked facilities.

36 (c) (1) On or before January 1, 2016, each county shall, for the  
37 2014–15 fiscal year, submit to the department a baseline report on  
38 the efficacy of the county's mental health care plan, including  
39 county-operated programs and county-contracted services. The  
40 report shall include expenditures from all revenue streams.

(2) On or before June 30, 2016, the department shall report to the Legislature on the baseline measure of system quality and access to services provided by the counties pursuant to paragraph (1). The report shall be submitted in compliance with Section 9795 of the Government Code.

(3) The requirement for submitting a report imposed pursuant to paragraph (2) is inoperative on July 1, 2020, pursuant to Section 10231.5 of the Government Code.

(d) (1) On or before January 1, 2020, a second baseline report shall be conducted by counties for the 2015–16, 2016–17, 2017–18, and 2018–19 fiscal years and submitted to the department. The report shall include the information described in paragraph (1) of subdivision (c).

(2) On or before June 30, 2020, the department shall report to the Legislature on the baseline measure of system quality and access to services provided by the counties pursuant to paragraph (1). The report shall be submitted in compliance with Section 9795 of the Government Code.

(3) The requirement for submitting a report imposed pursuant to paragraph (2) is inoperative on July 1, 2024, pursuant to Section 10231.5 of the Government Code.

(e) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2025, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2025, deletes or extends that date.

SEC. 3. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.